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Date: August 3, 2007 For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

East Beach Reopened to Swimming

Tests Show Concentration of Bacteria Has Dropped to Safe Levels

New Bedford, Massachusetts- The New Bedford Health Department has announced that New Bedford's "East Beach" has been reopened for swimming as of 9:00AM today. East Beach is located along East Rodney French Boulevard in New Bedford. The testing results of water samples collected on Friday, August 2, 2007 show the concentration of Enterococcus bacteria at East Beach has dropped back to safe levels for swimming. Warning signs posted in the swimming area have been removed.

Health officials issued a closure advisory yesterday, August 2, 2007 when water-sampling results collected on August 1, 2007 showed levels of Enterococcus bacteria above the closure level in the East Beach swimming area. The closure did not affect the swimming beach at "West Beach," which is located along West Rodney French Boulevard.

Water sampling is conducted at all city beaches on a weekly basis. City health officials will continue to monitor the water quality at East Beach and all municipal beaches for any significant changes.

Additional information is available by calling the New Bedford Health Department at (508) 991-6290.